

Applicant: Adjakple et al.
Application No.: 10/675,639

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-33 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1-3 12-17 and 26-33 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 4 and 18-25 have been amended.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 4 – 11 and 18 – 25 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. However, the Examiner has stated that claims 4-11 and 18-25 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants thank the Examiner for pointing out the allowability of claims 4-11 and 18-25 and have rewritten the claims as suggested. Therefore, the withdrawal of the objection to claims 4-11 and 18-25 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claims 1- 3, 12 – 17, and 26 – 33 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Agrawal (US Patent No. 6,748, 234) in view of Feuerstraeter (US Pub. No. 2003/0058894).

In view of the foregoing amendment, rejection of claims 1-3, 15-17 and 30-33 is now moot. Furthermore, claims 4-11 and 18-25 are now in condition for allowance.

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Conclusion

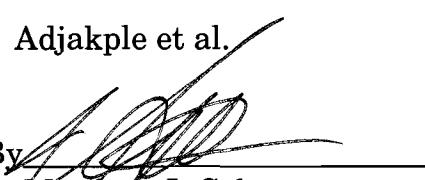
If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephonic interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Adjakple et al.

By


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